

# THE ALMA RECORD.

VOL. XXXIX—NO. 34

ALMA, MICHIGAN, THURSDAY AFTERNOON, NOVEMBER 22, 1917

WHOLE NUMBER 2018

## COMPANY WILL BUILD AT ONCE

Ex-Cell-All Products Co., New Alma Concern, Starts First Unit of Plant Next Week.

## BOARD OF TRADE GIVES SITE

Main Offices of the Company Will Be Moved to This City Within Ten Days—Plans to Follow.

During the past ten days the Alma Board of Trade has been devoting unusual attention towards the securing of the Ex-Cell-All factory and in making the final arrangements for the locating of this company in Alma, and it can now be announced that all the details in this connection have been completed and the company is an assured industry for this city.

For the benefit of those who have not been actively engaged in the securing of this proposition for Alma, we give a brief outline of the possibilities of the Ex-Cell-All products in developing a company that will be one of Alma's greatest industries.

The main object of this company is to specialize in articles of extreme merit to be manufactured in Alma, all bearing the trade mark, Ex-Cell-All, and which will be sold through the hardware trade.

The gentlemen back of this concern are all well versed and know their business from A to Z in this special field of manufacturing and merchandizing.

Sometime ago one of the main directors of the Board of Trade heard of this company, and at the same time that it had secured the plant at Marion, Mich., and very soon after this company took over the Johnson Paint company of Big Rapids. He heard also that it was their intention to assemble all of their plants in one place, and he spoke of it to the directors of the Board of Trade. The board quickly began an investigation of the company, and it was found that the company had unusual opportunities and that the lines which they were manufacturing had extreme merit and were meeting with general favor wherever introduced. Meantime it was learned that other cities both in this state and elsewhere had made definite offers and inducements for the company to locate.

When the report of the board was made on the company's unusual efforts were made to raise the necessary capital in stock subscriptions to secure the factory for Alma. Enough stock has been subscribed to insure the factory coming here, and an allotment of four acres of trackage property on the Board of Trade sites in the south part of the city has been made. The standing features of this proposition are that the Ex-Cell-All Products company comes here without a bonus and does not ask the Board of Trade for a loan. All that is asked for is a free site of four acres, which has been granted, but which would not have been acceptable unless an additional six acres were held in reservation to be decided to the company as fast as they erect more factories, and an agreement covering this has been executed.

The company does not intend to wait until spring before building operations start, but will begin at once, and at the time of going to press tenders are being called for for the erection of the first unit of the factory, a building to be 36 by 150 feet. This building will be started next week and will be completed the latter part of December. As the company has outgrown present quarters, the early completion of this unit is necessary.

The offices of the company will be moved here within ten days, we are informed.

It is planned by the company to hold a convention here twice each year for all of its dealers and salesmen, and this will mean much for Alma from an advertising point of view, and with the building of additional units in the spring it means that Alma is broadening out into a line of varied industries which are needed for the healthy growth of any community.

It should also be remembered that the Ex-Cell-All Products company is already an established and growing concern. The paint department alone is doing a wonderful business.

There is still a small amount of stock available in the Ex-Cell-All company, and those wishing to subscribe should get in touch with Mr. Otto Sanderhoff of the Board of Trade.

The stockholders of Alma will be represented by a member on the board of directors of the company.

## CHECK GOING.

Record Will Send Another Check for The Record Tobacco Fund.

The Alma Record is forwarding another check this week to the American Tobacco company at New York for soldiers' smoking outfits, from the money which has come into The Alma Record Tobacco fund.

Names of the donors will go in with the checks, and in each kit which goes to the soldiers in France there will be a stamped postal card for the reply of the soldiers who receive the kits.

Donations may be made at the cigar stores, the drug stores, the Wright House, the Economy shoe store or The Alma Record office. Help a soldier. The Record hopes that this check will send kits over in time for Christmas presents for some Samnies.

## FORMER COMMISSIONER OF STREETS IS DEAD

Oscar F. Parker, Aged 69, Had Been Ill at His Home for Over Three Months.

Oscar F. Parker, a resident of this city for the past 11 years, passed away quietly at his home last Friday morning at 6:30, following an illness of three months. He was 69 years and 3 months of age at the time of his death.

Mr. Parker was well and favorably known by the entire community, which he had served for six years as street commissioner, filling this office with ability and credit.

O. F. Parker was born in Stafford, Ohio, in 1848. He came to Michigan in 1889, and in 1890 located in Norwich township, Muskegon county, being one of the first settlers in that section.

In 1882 he was married to Mrs. Mary A. Dowling, the widow of John A. Dowling and mother of Harvey J. and Lola J. Dowling. To Mr. and Mrs. Parker have been born two sons, Earl O. Parker and Frank O. Parker. In 1906 they moved to Alma and have since made this city their home. Mr. Parker has been an active worker in the independent Order of Odd Fellows for 30 years. He was a quiet, unassuming Christian man, but impressed all who came in contact with him with the strength of his individuality. He took a keen interest in all that promised to benefit the people of his community and because of his genuine worth was highly thought of by all who knew him.

He leaves to mourn their loss Mary A. Parker, his wife; three sons, Earl O. Parker, Frank O. Parker and Harvey J. Parker; two daughters, Mrs. Lela J. Bunker of Eureka, Cal.; two brothers, Orville J. Parker of McBride, Mich., and Orville Parker of Rogers, Ark.; one sister, Mrs. Hannah Brainerd of Olympia, Wash.; besides many other relatives and a host of friends.

The funeral was held from the residence at 2 o'clock Sunday afternoon. Rev. Duffy having charge of the services. This was followed by services at the grave in Riverside cemetery, these being in charge of the Rev. O. F. Lodge, which had rendered every assistance to the bereaved family.

## LEFT FOR CUSTER.

Eighty Drafted Men Left for Camp Custer Tuesday Morning.

Eighty-two men, all of them sturdy sons of Gratiot county, left Tuesday morning for Camp Custer, Battle Creek, where they will go into training to become a portion of the new national army which will go against the German hosts sooner or later.

A crowd of relatives and friends of the men were at the depot to see them off for the camp, and there was many a wet eye in the crowd that saw these young men depart, little knowing whether or not they would see them home again safe and sound.

The men departed in high spirits, and one would have thought that they were going on a pleasure trip instead of leaving to go into the grim business of war.

When they left the city the men were all given a housewife kit containing buttons, needles and thread, etc. The kits were made up by the girls of the Republic Motor Truck company, Incorporated, of this city, and were presented to the men by the ladies of the Red Cross of this city.

All men who have gone to camp from Gratiot county are now supplied with these kits, the Republic girls and the ladies of Alma having sent enough to Camp Custer to supply every Gratiot man there.

Now, if you don't want to be elected to office you must be present to defend yourself. This is the most important meeting of the year.

Lecturer.

## LIEUT. GARDNER WRITES OF "Y"

Great Work of This Organization in War Is Told by Alma Doctor

## IS NOW AT FORT OGLETHORPE

Is in Training at Medical Officers' Training Camp at This Old Fort

First Lieutenant Cyrus B. Gardner, now stationed at the Medical Officers' Training camp at Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia, has written a most interesting letter to Mr. Blaine, secretary of the Gratiot County Y. M. C. A., which tells numerous interesting things about army life, and especially about this life and the "Y" work.

It is a pleasure to publish it: My Dear Mr. Curtis:

Since I have been here a few weeks, I am quite long enough to acquaint myself with the character of the work that the Y. M. C. A. is doing. I will, in compliance with a promise made you prior to my departure, try in my humble way to tell you what a very great work the "Y" is doing. Having in mind the problem of social betterment, there has, as you know, been a commission appointed with far-reaching power for good, and this is the Commission on Training Camp Activities. That commission is made up of far-seeing men and women of affairs, not faddists, but practical idealists who know the insidious dangers and who are planning in an efficient manner to make the training camps as healthful, safe and happy places for the youth of our land to train in as possible. The Y. M. C. A. is one of these agencies selected and officially sanctioned and is an agency whose hospitality most of us have enjoyed and for whose courtesies I can testify.

I am certain that most of the men here (I am speaking of the Medical Officers' Training camp) much like myself failed to realize in full measure the great good that this wonderful agency does in our army camps. But now that we are here, it is needless to say that we do realize it. Here at camp, away from homes with their pleasant surroundings, away from many of the associations which help to make our lives happy, we find it a pleasant thing to drop into the hospitable Y. M. C. A. to hear good music, write our letters and to chat with other men who are lost for occupation in their spare time, as we are. If the Y. M. C. A. suddenly assumes a place of great importance in a medical officer's life who is an educated man (present company excepted), what must it mean to those homelike recruits out on the hill, many of whom are away from home for the first time, to see a man who is able to obtain suitable clothing or sufficient clothing, who have no comfortable place to sit in their camps, and all too little done to make them enjoy their hours of duty?

The other day I went over to the "Y" to get a check cashed (the Chattanooga banks have representatives at the "Y" buildings), and beheld one of the grandest, and at the same time most pitiable, sights. A Y. M. C. A. secretary was writing a letter home for an illiterate conscript of the army. I could not resist the temptation to stand by. This kindly secretary was writing out the homely phrases exactly as this unfortunate lad gave them, that the folks back home might better understand. And this occurrence is no uncommon thing. Another secretary was conducting a class in English for the benefit of those in our army who have not been in this country long enough to have familiarized themselves with our language.

In addition the "Y" provides various indoor games, it supplies entertainment, music and moving pictures. It also organizes and conducts Bible classes. It takes the place of the home and church, and even the school.

In some of the "Y" buildings one can take small purchases of necessary articles and a few have cafes in connection, conducted on the cafeteria, a sort of self-serve arrangement. At the "Y" downtown (Chattanooga) last Saturday, I got for 46 cents a meal which in any semi-fashionable hotel would have cost not less than \$2.

The other day I spoke to one of the secretaries about joining the "Y." He replied, "Your uniform admits you to all of the privileges." It is an accepted fact here that the "Y" is the one place where all are given a square deal. Daily comments to that effect are heard.

To my mind not the least significant feature of the "Y" is that it is absolutely non-sectarian, and this illustrates very beautifully the broad lines on which it works. Here Protestant, Catholic, Jew and Gentile may find a haven of refuge and each may worship in his own way. Everyone here is deeply impressed by and profoundly grateful for the work that the Y. M. C. A. is doing.

Personally, I am resolved that when this war is over and I get home, in grateful remembrance for the hospitality accorded by the "Y," I am going (Continued on Page Four.)

## THEY ORGANIZE.

Gas Men in Meeting Here Yesterday Formed Central Mich. Association.

A dozen or more gas men from various cities in this section of the state met here yesterday for the purpose of forming a Central Michigan Gas association which would work for the mutual advantage of those who joined.

The meeting was held at the Wright House.

The following officers were elected: President—N. J. Brown, of Mt. Pleasant.

Vice-president—C. F. Brown, of Alma.

Secretary and treasurer—R. B. Wagner, of Alma.

## COLLEGE TAKES CHAMPIONSHIP

Kalamazoo College Eleven Defeated in Titular Game by Cream and Maroon Team.

25 TO 14 THE FINAL SCORE

Alma College Team Had Game Tucked Away Before the Kazoo Team Was Able to Score

The Michigan intercollegiate football championship came to repose upon the Cream and Maroon banner following the Kalamazoo college football game at Kalamazoo Saturday, when the Alma college eleven walked over the frames of Coach Young's hopefuls, who had barked heavily on their ability to repeat again this year.

Superior coaching told the story and Helmer's eleven was returned a winner by a score of 25 to 14, and the score does not begin to show the great superiority of the Alma team.

FIRST QUARTER—Captain Foots won the race and chose to defend the west goal. Kazoo kicked to Alma and a march started down the field. Inside of the 10-yard line Kazoo stiffened somewhat. On the fourth down a pass was heaved over the goal, which Richards missed by inches, and it was Kalamazoo's ball on her 29-yard line. In three downs Kazoo lost two yards. Storme punted, Smith receiving the kick and returning the ball to the Kazoo 32-yard line. Smith made three and then passed, 30 yards to Richards for a touchdown. Kazoo tried hard to steal the ball, but "Toot" Hall was on the job and it didn't work. Narrance goaled after the kickoff from the corner of the field. Score: Alma 7, Kazoo 0.

Alma kicked to Kazoo. Kazoo couldn't gain and punted. Alma carried the ball back to the goal, but lost it on a fumble. Kazoo recovering, Miller blocked a Kazoo punt and recovered on the two-yard line. Richards fumbled and Kalamazoo recovered. Quarter ended with Kazoo in possession of ball on Kazoo 21-yard line.

SECOND QUARTER—Kazoo punted to start. Alma getting coal on 38-yard line. Smith made first down, and after three plays, a pass, Smith to Richards, for 20 yards, netted the second touchdown. Goal failed. Score: Alma 13, Kazoo 0.

Alma kicked to Kazoo, who was downed on her 29-yard line, failing to gain, and punted to Helbert on Kazoo 38-yard line. A poor punt gave Kazoo the ball on the 25-yard line. Three downs gave Kazoo three yards and she punted to Smith in midfield. He returned 24 yards. Spooner made two and a pass, Smith to Richards, brought the third touchdown. Goal failed. Score: Alma 19, Kazoo 0.

THIRD QUARTER—Kalamazoo came to life in this session and outplayed Alma. Kazoo returned kickoff to the 40-yard line. A pass, Storme to Tapley, gave 10. Storme made 3. Two passes failed and on fourth down a foolhardy pass went true. Storme passed 40 yards for a touchdown. Pearce was given credit, but it is said that Fauch, ineligible for it, got the pass and carried it over. Kazoo goaled. Score: Alma 19, Kazoo 7.

Kazoo kicked to Alma and the ball went down the field behind the Alma line. With two yards to gain on a fourth down, far into Kazoo territory, signals mixed the only time during the game, and Richards punted instead of smashing line. Richards intercepted pass and another march started, but Kazoo finally held and forced Alma to punt.

FOURTH QUARTER—Kazoo was forced to punt. Alma was forced to punt. Kazoo had to punt to Alma on Kazoo 44-yard line. Smith made 10. Foote 18 and Narrance 7. Spooner got 6 and Lott 1. Narrance punted for a touchdown. No goal. Score: Alma 25, Kazoo 7.

Alma kicked to Kazoo and a series of passes carried the ball far into Alma territory under cover of darkness. Storme plunged through for a touchdown just as time was called. Goal was made. Final score: Alma 25, Kazoo 14.

During the game Alma gained over twice the yardage that Kalamazoo did, and gained ground on nearly every exchange of punts. Alma was handed 45 yards in penalties and Kalamazoo 15 yards.

The Kazoos held up the game so that the latter part was played under cover of darkness, when the officials could not tell who was receiving the passes of the Kalamazoo eleven. It was clever work in the effort to win, but hardly good sportsmanship. The game, scheduled to start at 2:30, did not start until about an hour later.

Smith was the big star of the Alma team, but every man on the eleven played a stellar game for the Maroon and Cream in the final contest, which brings the Alma team through the season as the only college eleven in the state not defeated by some other college team. It is the finest record that any Alma college team has ever made, and one to be greatly proud of.

Attorney Main of South Bend, Ind., is in Alma this week on legal business.

—Sunday only. —Daily except Sunday.

Mrs. Jeanne Prindle of Detroit is a guest at the home of A. A. Chich.

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## WILL MOVE.

Postoffice Moves Thanksgiving Day and Will Not Give Out Mail

The Alma postoffice has been informed the Alma postoffice will be moved to its new quarters in the Dallas block on South State street Thanksgiving day, Thursday, November 29, and because of this no mail will be given out that day.

It has been the usual custom to have the window open at the postoffice for an hour on legal holidays, but it will be impossible for the clerks to do this and also help in moving the office.

Lack of space in the present office compels moving before the holiday rush starts at the postoffice. On Friday of next week the office will be open at the new postoffice.

## GREEN GETS APPOINTED AS A MAJOR SAYS REPORT

Former Alma Attorney in Army at Custer Jumps From First Lieutenant to Major.

J. A. Greene of this city is competing for the United States army, according to all reports, and has just been commissioned a major in the army, jumping to this rank from a first lieutenant.

The career of James A. Greene is a bright one. A graduate of the law department of the University of Michigan, he was elected prosecuting attorney of Livingston county for two terms. Following this Greene was appointed assistant attorney-general for the state of Michigan, serving two years in this office.

Resigning from this position, Attorney Greene located in Alma, and practiced law here until this spring. During this time he served one year as city attorney.

When the officers' training camps were opened this spring Greene took the examination and passed, and immediately left for the training camp at Fort Sheridan. He came out of the training camp, following an intensive course, with a commission of first lieutenant, and was sent to Camp Custer at Battle Creek.

A week ago it was announced that because of his legal training that he had been appointed assistant judge advocate, and that the probabilities were that he would soon receive an appointment as judge advocate.

His commission as major, coming so soon upon his appointment, indicates that Greene is showing great ability in the army circles at Custer. The Record joins his Alma friends in congratulating him upon the commission he has received.

## MORE GOOD NEWS

The New York Tribune is now among the live periodicals on the table at the Alma Free Reading room, 322 South Woodward avenue. For this splendid addition to our list we have to thank Mrs. Sarah Lancaster, who was a charter member of the library commission, and whose heart and money has never failed us. Below is a further list of the recently catalogued books. Be sure and read "Friends of France." It is fine.

Reader's Guide to August, 1917. The Pungent Plot Unmasked. Cheradame.

Salt of the Earth, Sidgwick. The Land of Deeping Shadow, Curran.

My Four Years in Germany, Gerard. Greater Italy, Wallace.

Over the Top, Empey. Christine, Chomondely. Toward the Goal, Ward.

On the Edge of the War Zone, Aldrich. Black Beauty, Sewell.

Catherine's Child, La Pasture. Little Citizens, Kelly. Cordelia Blossom, Chester.

Dr. & L. Bacheller. Ellen Holden, Bacheller. Alice of Old Vincennes, Thompson.

A Woman's Impressions of the Philippines, Fee. Told in the Hills, Ryan.

Laddie, Porter. Green Tree Mystery, Doubleday. Recount Lake Mystery, Hopkins.

The Hand of Fu Manchu, Rohmer.

TWO SOLICITORS.

The Alma Record has secured the services of James Davidson of Alma and Mr. Sias of Forest Hill, who are authorized to collect accounts and solicit subscriptions. Any favors which may be shown these men will be appreciated. We earnestly request that those indebted to The Record will make arrangements to care for their accounts when called upon by these men.—Editor.

SALVATION ARMY

The Salvation Army is going to give out Christmas baskets to the poor of Alma, also a Christmas tree for the children. A splendid program is being arranged, boxes are being put in all the stores and business houses, and each one is asked to help in this good and worthy work.

CARD OF THANKS.

We wish to thank our friends and neighbors for their kindness and assistance, also for the beautiful flowers, during the sickness and death of my husband.

Mrs. Morilla McKinney and Family.

## "Y" CAMPAIGN WAS A GREAT SUCCESS

Gratiot County Went Far Above Her Quota for the Y M C A War Work Fund.

## ALMA ALSO "OVER THE TOP"

Alma College Topped Both City and County Having Raised Average of \$8.00 Per Student

"Over the top," said Empey, and over the top went Gratiot county with her subscriptions to the "Y" war work fund in the campaign which was fought to a close Sunday after a strenuous two days of campaigning in all parts of the county and especially in this city, which went heavy for the war fund of the Y. M. C. A.

It is estimated that Gratiot county has raised \$12,000 and the amount may be larger when the returns are all in. Some of them are coming in very slowly and a very few of those which are in are not yet tabulated. It would not be greatly surprising to the committee if the amount went a thousand dollars above the estimate, which is a conservative one to say the least.

In Alma the campaign proved just as gratifying as it did in the entire county, the people of this city responding in noble style to the needs of the "Y," which is seeking to make the Samnies' life as much of a pleasure as possible.

At the mass meeting Friday evening some stirring appeals were made by the speakers. Lieutenant Lowery of the Canadian army, who has won honors for bravery on the fields of Europe; J. N. McCall, editor of the Gratiot County Herald, and Rev. Greene of Mt. Pleasant. During the mass meeting citizens of Alma subscribed a total of \$2,500. To this amount was added thirteen hundred which was subscribed Saturday and Sunday, and a few solicitors who were late with their work for various good reasons have returned in pledges since which have added a nice amount to this.

Alma college went over the top with the rest. The college had a roasting time in its campaign and \$1,000 was pledged by the students, this being a highly respectable total for a couple of hundred young people, a number of whom are working their way through college, and with very few among their number who could afford to give very much without pinching themselves in some way. It demonstrates a high spirit of patriotism of which the institution may be justly proud.

The quota of Gratiot county, \$8,000, was exceeded by about 20 per cent. That of Alma was exceeded by nearly 25 per cent and that of Alma college by over 50 per cent. The Presbyterian institution having the best showing of the three.

COMMUNICATION

Chapter III.

And now that you are converted to the science of making Christmas simple, listen while I remind you of some of the outstanding phases of the subject. I will not speak in detail. Our merchants are putting out splendid displays—perhaps not quite as extensive as usual—and they expect to be patronized—we expect to buy! But what I want to impress is that our first thought is for the "other fellow"—when we buy. We and our immediate friends are not looking for gifts from each other. We'll live the Christmas spirit sweet and true.

Think of some other mother. Some other body's brother! Just send a card to me—I'll send one to you!

And then the horror of the hundreds of little maimed, cruelly, viciously maimed children "over there!" If we hurry, it is not too late to send out gifts to them. Shall we not? And the thousands of boys just out of the eye of departure for the front. Each one would just love to receive a Christmas package. And again—there are the families right here in our own city, in need of the necessities, not to speak of the luxuries of life—remember these.

Talk about patriotism! Talk about unselfishness! It requires more patriotism for a woman to turn her thought away from her own at Christmas time than you may at first think.

But women; mothers; this appeal is to YOU, and YOU, and YOU. Don't be a "slacker." Stand by—and serve your flag, and my flag—and be found loyal.

Yours for every good cause, ALMA CIVIC IMPROVEMENT LEAGUE.

NEW SKATING RINK.

O. E. Buecanning will open a new skating rink on the second floor of the Marshall Dallas block, on Thanksgiving day. There will be skating from 2 until 5 in the afternoon and again in the evening, with a dance starting at 9 p. m. A fine new electric piano will furnish music for the new rink.

Circulation counts—we have it.